



Webinar 12/03 Call:

Establishing a National Methodology for Operational Mixing Height Determination from the Southern Fire Exchange.

- Webinar recorded and. Will have recording on the SFE Webinar and event page:

http://southernfireexchange.org/Web_Event/Webinars.html

Webinar: 'Impairment' – A New Metric to Track Progress under the Regional Haze Rule

- Scott Copeland (FS). Addressing Regional Haze Impairment and Wildland Fire Impacts.
US EPA's 1999 Regional Haze Rule (RHR) The only Clean Air Act program aimed solely at protecting the visual air quality, or "visibility" in many wildernesses, national parks, and wildlife refuges. Progress is being made towards the CAA goal of no manmade visibility impairment in class I areas. However, haze from wildfires and prescribed fires has made it difficult for many states to demonstrate that progress. While the largest recent effects from smoke are seen in western states, fossil fuel emissions reductions in the east will lead to the same issue in eastern states in the future. For the past year, EPA has collaborated with federal land managers, and consulted with state air agencies to develop a new metric that focuses attention on anthropogenic emissions. The new metric can be easily calculated from IMPROVE data, and provides a new method for states to demonstrate progress towards the Regional Haze Rule goal.

Membership Issues

- Vacancy Issues: Vice SmoC Chair, Training Subcomm. Co-Chair.
- Soon to be a vacancy – Smoke Managers Subcomm. Chair.
- Claudia will be retiring at the end of the month from her position in NM.

Status of Activity Updates

- August has finished and started working on September.
- **Web Site activity** – Ozone page active, need Briefing update; PM2.5 NAA and Federal Lands map requested; Posting of Webinars and links.
- Pete feedback – ozone maps are really useful; the community wants map for PM2.5 as well.

NWCG Business

- Annual meeting list submitted. Dan Chan travel accepted. Jamie Tripp/FS may join in Boise.
- **Product revision Schedule:**
 1. Wildland Fire Incident Management Field Guide (Red Book) (PMS 210), January 2014.
 - Elaine will see if Frankie has a draft version of the revised Redbook for SmoC review.
 2. Incident Response Pocket Guide (PMS 461), January 2014.
 - NWCG Discussion to extend the review another year.
 - Fire Weather subcommittee discussed extending to 2017, no confirmation yet.
 - Mark will find out if NWCG pushed the review period for the IRPG back to 2017.
 3. Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, January 2015.

Exceptional Event Rule

- Pete will send 1.75 page draft BP to SmoC by end of this week. Will post Wed. of next week.
- Get comments on ozone BP back to Pete asap so that it can be ready by Wed 12/23.
- Trying to extend the comment period on the proposed EER rule by 15 days.
- Hearing in Phoenix: Several testimonies made, 2 relate to fire (one from Dan Johnson, One from Craig Thomas at the Sierra Forest Legacy). These should be recorded in the docket.



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NWCG Smoke Committee December Activity Update



Upcoming Workshops-SmoC Participation

1. American Geophysical Union, San Francisco, CA, December 14-18, 2015.
2. IAWF Fire Behavior and Fuels Conference (April 11-15, 2016)---special tracks/workshops.
3. Canadian Smoke Forum - Emergency Management and Health Responses, Kelowna, Canada, October 28, 2016.
4. IAWF International Smoke Symposium 2 (November 14-19, 2016, Long Beach, CA)
 - Need to spread the word on this – Save the Date flyer on IAWF website:
<http://www.iawfonline.org/2016SmokeSymposium>
 - Steering committee will have its first meeting in January.

Subcommittee Report-outs:

Smoke Technical Topics

- Smoke Management Guide work is continuing will have a draft by the all-chairs meeting in January.
- NASAs jet propulsion lab articles: NASA will put a satellite network up for fire detection instrumentation and will be able to detect very small fires in real-time. Goal by 2018.
- Calling it FireSat system. Availability by June 2018. Will detect fires within 15 minutes of starting and 35-50 ft in length using thermal sensors launched on about 200 small low-orbiting satellites. It is being led by NASA JPL & some private companies. Looks like they've made presentations to the NASA/US FS Tactical Fire Remote Sensing Advisory Committee
- It will also return fire perimeter data (nice!), fire intensity, and vegetation info too.
- See the links below for more information:
 - <http://wildfiretoday.com/2015/11/21/nasa-to-launch-200-satellites-that-will-detect-wildfires/>
 - www.firesat.info
 - <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?feature=4775>
 - http://finance.yahoo.com/news/nasa-developing-satellite-network-real-144502548.html;_ylt=A86.JyR9ZVBXSHUA5PQnnlIQ;_ylu=X3oDMTByb2lvbXVvBGNvbG8DZ3ExBHBvcwMxBH70aWQDBHNIYwNzcg--

Smoke Training

- Smoke and Air Quality for Land Managers – Status, Review, revise and plans – review period runs to 1/15 for the 58 page training script, will have a committee call 1/28.
- Personnel Exposure Guidebook-Status – Pete is working with Joe Domitrovich to make sure the version of this is wrapped up.

Smoke Managers

- Gary shared context for the mixing height webinar that was presented today.
- Pete shared info on the SmoC Committee.
- Rick Gillam – gave an update on the exceptional events rule revision and the implementation of air quality regulations and fire.
- Other discussion topics: Smoke manager messaging for smoke.
- San Juan Valley proposed different methods to enable more Rx burning with the intension of reducing the wildfire risk and the impacts on air quality - good Rx fire program is a necessary piece of air and fire management.



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Round Robin Topics

- Another ARA training is being planned for May 2016, working out the exact dates (first or second week of May).
- Dec. 8, there will be EER testimony/public hearing Ron Sherron will be there. – Mark will check with Ron Sherron regarding sharing the information from the EER testimony with SmoC on the 12/17 call.
- Claudia will send an email to Mark or Josh to get a copy of the SMG for review.
- Claudia's last SmoC call before retirement, been a pleasure working with you. We'll be staying in touch!

DRAFT